

REMARKS

Applicant is in receipt of the Office Action mailed June 18, 2004. Claims 1-8, 10-17, 19-21, 55, and 68-88 have been cancelled, and new claims 89-122 have been added based on the allowed subject matter indicated in the Office Action. The Specification has been amended to correct various informalities. The title has been amended to more clearly reflect the claimed matter.

Reconsideration of the present case is earnestly requested in light of the following remarks.

Allowed Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the allowance of the subject matter of claims 69 and 70. As noted above, claims 1-8, 10-17, 19-21, 55, and 68-88 have been cancelled, and allowed claims 69 and 70 have been respectively replaced with new independent claims 89 and 106 for convenience, e.g., for claim numbering. No new matter has been added.

Additionally, new independent claims 105 and 122, which are memory medium claims corresponding respectively to method claims 89 and 106 have also been added.

Applicant respectfully submits that since the new independent claims 89, 105, 106, and 122, are based on the allowed subject matter of (now cancelled) claims 69 and 70, that these claims, and those claims dependent thereon, are patentably distinct and non-obvious over the cited art, and are thus allowable.

Applicant also asserts that numerous ones of the dependent claims recited further distinctions over the cited art. However, since the independent claims have been shown to be patentably distinct, a further discussion of the dependent claims is not necessary at this time.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits the application is now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel PC Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5150-47600/JCH.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey C. Hood
Reg. No. 35,198
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel PC
P.O. Box 398
Austin, TX 78767-0398
Phone: (512) 853-8800

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